

# The China Mail.

Established February, 1845.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1885.

日十二月十年乙

PRICE, \$2 PER MONTH.

VOL. XLII. No. 6968.

號六廿月一十年五十八百八千一英

## Business Notices.

### THE 'WENHAM' GAS LAMP.

THIS IMPORTANT INVENTION, which is attracting so much attention among GAS ENGINEERS, SCIENTIFIC MEN, and others interested in GAS LIGHTING, produces

### A LIGHT EQUALLING THE ELECTRIC,

Simply by an ingenious arrangement whereby the air necessary for combustion is heated to a high temperature before impinging upon the Gas as it issues from the burner.

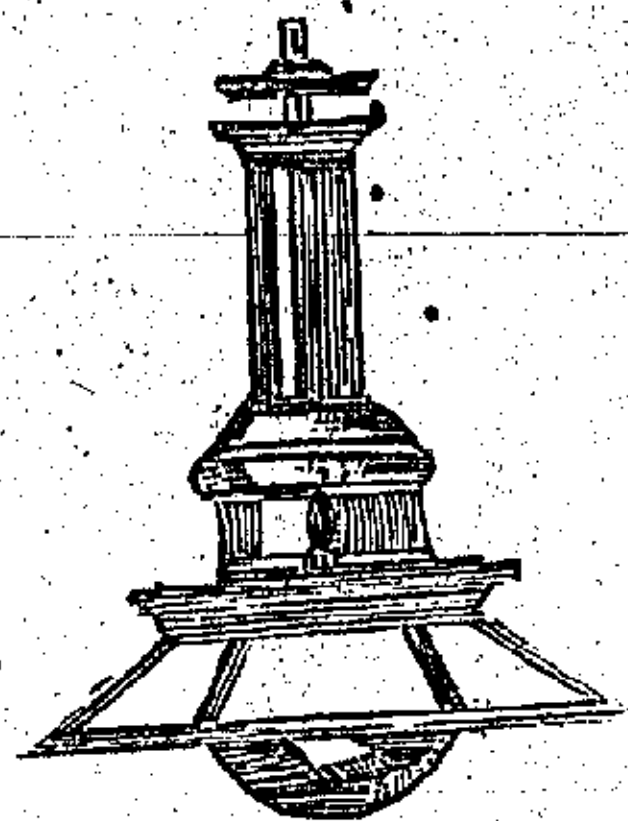
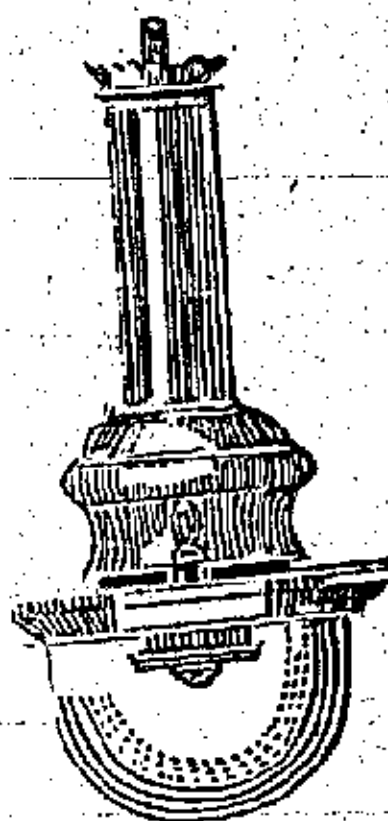
The Lamps are made in Four Sizes, viz:

No. 1, to consume 6 feet of Gas per hour.	Giving illuminating power of from 75 to 200 candles. More than double the results obtained by ordinary methods.
" 2, " 9 " "	" 100 " "
" 3, " 11 1/2 " "	" 150 " "
" 4, " 18 " "	" 200 " "

### THE PRESENT FORMS OF LAMPS

ARE APPLICABLE FOR LIGHTING

Shops, Clubs, Rooms, Corridors, Public Buildings, Banks, Offices, Churches, Chapels, School-rooms, Workshops, Railway Stations, &c.



## LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.,

SOLE AGENTS

FOR

## CHINA & JAPAN.

The above Lamps can be seen working at The Hongkong Hotel, Victoria Hotel, and German Club.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Hongkong, November 24, 1885.

## NOTICES OF FIRMS.

### NOTICE.

THE BUSINESS OF BROWN, JONES & Co. (Undertakers, 10 Queen's Road East), hitherto carried on by E. L. STAINFIELD, was taken over by me on the 1st November, and will continue to be conducted by me, under the same firm name. A. PROBERT and COMMISSION AGENT has also opened, to be conducted under the name of STAINFIELD & Co.

H. L. STRINGER. 1937

### NOTICE.

I HAVE THIS DAY COMMENCED BUSINESS in Hongkong and China, as MERCHANT and COMMISSION AGENT, and Mr. ADDOLARHOY ALLARUEKHA has been authorized to sign the firm.

JOSEPH ROY LUDHARHOY CHUTTOO. 2019

### Intimations.

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

ADJUSTMENT OF BONDS FOR THE YEAR 1884.

SHAREHOLDERS are hereby requested to send to this Office a List of their Contributions of Premium for the year ending 31st December last, in order that the PROPORTION OF PROFIT for that year to be paid as BONUS to Contributors may be arranged. Returns not sent in before the 30th November next, will be made up by the Company, and no subsequent Claims of Alterations will be allowed.

By Order of the Directors, JAS. B. COUGHTRE, Secretary.

Hongkong, October 1, 1885. 1714

WILLIAM DOLAN, SAIL-MAKER & SHIP-CHANDLER, 22, PRATA CENTRAL.

COTTON DUCKS, HEMP CANYAS, MANILA ROPE, AMERICAN OAKUM, LIFE BOOYS, CORK JACKETS, &c., &c., &c.

Hongkong, May 1, 1882. 266

HONGKONG RACES, 1885.

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, AND FRIDAY, 24th, 25th, and 26th February, 1885.

THE HONGKONG DERBY.

THE HONGKONG DERBY, A SWEEPSTAKES of \$20 each, half forfeit if declared on or before the date of Closing Entries, with \$100 added for 1st Pony and \$50 for 2nd. For all China Ponies and 4th Griffs at date of Entry (SATURDAY, 23rd January 1885). First Pony, 10 per cent; Second Pony, 20 per cent; Third Pony, 10 per cent. Weight 10st. 10lbs. One-mile-and-a-half. Nominations close on SATURDAY, 19th December, 1885, addressed to the CLERK of the Course, at the Hongkong Club.

By Order, H. J. H. TRIFF, Clerk of the Course.

Hongkong, November 13, 1885. 1970

CHEE WO LING KEE, HAS always on Hand STEAM LAUNCHES FOR HIRE. Charges as follows: Wing-Shing, Wing-Chong, and Wing-Ty. For first hour, \$3. " second, \$2. " every subsequent hour, \$1. Wing-Fuk, Wing-Loy, and Wing-Lee. For first hour, \$2. " second or subsequent hour, \$1. Rates for towing Vessels and Cargo-boats, or use of Launches for Excursions to Macao, Canton, or other places may be arranged at No. 20, Wing Wo Street.

Hongkong, June 18, 1885. 970

## JAPAN! JAPAN!! JAPAN!!!

### IMPORTANT NOTICE.

## KUHN & Co.'s FINE ART GALLERY, IS NOW OPEN!

IS NOW OPEN!!

IS NOW OPEN!!!

KUHN & Co. beg to announce that a Portion of their GOODS are now READY FOR INSPECTION in the SHOWS under the Hongkong Hotel. This Splendid Collection of JAPANESE PRODUCTS were originally intended for the Bombay Exhibition, but that having been abandoned, they will be exhibited and offered FOR SALE FOR A FEW WEEKS ONLY, commencing on the 20th Instant.

KUHN & Co. crave the indulgence of the Hongkong Community for all Short-comings in the arrangement of the EXHIBITS, the space at their disposal being limited, and as they have had a very short time in which to make preparations.

The Shops will remain Open each Evening until 10 p.m.

To our Exhibits at the Calcutta International Exhibition 1884 have been awarded 12 Gold, 5 Silver and 4 Bronze Medals with First-class Certificates of Merit.

Hongkong, November 19, 1885. 2012

## W. POWELL & Co.

RESPECTFULLY CALL ATTENTION TO THEIR LARGE & VARIED STOCK OF WINTER HOSIERY AND GLOVES.

Ladies and Children's CASHMERE Hosiery, applied knees. Clerical and Coloured Men's Hosiery. Coloured and Black Silk Hosiery. Span Siles, Merino and Cashmere Vests, COMBINATION GARMENTS. WOOL FETTERINGS, with bodices. JERSEYS and JERSEY SUITS. GENTLEMEN'S COTTON, MERINO, CASHMERE and BOOTS. KNIT HOSIERY and HALF-HOSE. MERINO YESTS and DRAWERS.

Gloves. Ladies' Dark-coloured Kid Gloves, 2, 4 and 6 Buttons. Ladies' Kid Gloves, 10 and 14 Buttons. Ladies' Swede Gloves, 8 and 16 Buttons. Gent's Kid and Cash Gloves, all lengths. Close-knit and Military Gloves. Evening Gloves, Lavender, White and Primrose.

MILLINERY, DRESS-MAKING, TAILORING.

VICTORIA EXCHANGE, November 10, 1885. 1951

## KELLY & WALSH, LD.

HAVE RECEIVED PER FRENCH MAIL.

'The Abolition Collection of Scotch Dances Music.' 'Addenda to Queen's Regulations and Admiralty Instructions.' Leland's 'Piggin English Sing Song.' Spence's 'Dictionary of Engineering,' latest Edition. All the latest 'Shilling Dreadsful.' A quantity of New Children's Books. Williams' 'Manual of Telegraphy.' Heston's 'Domestic Electricity.' Smith's 'Steam Making and Boiler Practice.' Gordon's 'Electricity and Magnetism.' Winsor & Newton's 'Art Hand Books' (the complete series). The Sailor's Pocket Book, latest Ed.

Kelly & Walsh, Limited, HONGKONG.

Hongkong, November 18, 1885. 2063

## ROBERT LANG & Co.,

QUEEN'S ROAD (OPPOSITE HONGKONG HOTEL).

Scotch Tweed Suit, \$15.00. While advertising our 'Specialties' we also wish to draw the attention of our Customers to our, now, complete Stock of TWEED SUITINGS, COATINGS, TROUSERINGS, SERGES, FLANNELS, &c. A large and choice selection of the newest FABRICS of English, Scotch and Continental Manufacture, from medium to the very finest qualities.

Hongkong, October 1, 1885. 1771

## Business Notices.

### Victoria Hotel,

Praya and Queen's Road Central, Hongkong.

THIS Extensive and well appointed Establishment, situated in one of the most central and airy positions in the Colony and commanding a splendid view of almost the entire harbour and within five minutes' walk of the principal Government Offices (including the Post Office), Banks, &c., has recently been much enlarged and improved and is now one of the principal Hotels in the place. The ROOMS are spacious, well ventilated and have just been refurnished in a most comfortable and handsome manner, suited to the requirements of the Far East. The Accommodation and Service of every kind will be found to be of the best description. An ample and varied TABLE D'HOTE is always provided and served in the spacious, large DINING HALL. The HOTEL also contains handsome and comfortable Reception, Reading, Billiard and Smoking Rooms. The HOTEL is unsurpassed for comfort, convenience and quick service. Continental languages are spoken.

Messrs. DORABJEE & HING KEE, Proprietors.

Hongkong, September 16, 1885.

### OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT.

## MISSES GATE AND FAIRALL

HAVE much pleasure in informing the Public of Hongkong that they have just OPENED A NEW STORE, situated Next Door to their Old Premises, HONGKONG HOTEL BUILDINGS.

We would draw special attention to our Stock of

GLOVES, BALL DRESSES, FLOWERS, &c., &c., &c.

Specially suitable FOR THE COMING BALL, which takes place on

MONDAY NEXT.

GATE AND FAIRALL.

THE WHITE HOUSE, Hongkong, November 24, 1885.

### Auctions.

#### PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to Sell by Public Auction, on

SATURDAY,

the 28th November, 1885, at 2 p.m., at his Sales Rooms, Queen's Road, AN ASSORTMENT OF JAPANESE WARE, comprising—

KANGA, SAKUMA, KOTO, and many other articles of the best quality of Vases, Jars, Bowls, Plates of different shapes, CARB and FRUIT DISHES, TEA and BREAKFAST SETS, MOROKIN WARE, ENAMELLED WARE, GOLD and SILVER INLAID BRONZES, IVORIES, BAMBOO CARVINGS, NIKERU, KARUMONO, BEST EMBROIDERED SCREENS, and many other articles.

TERMS OF SALE.—As customary.

J. M. ARMSTRONG, Auctioneer.

Hongkong, September 25, 1885. 2046

### To Let.

#### TO LET.

WESTERN Half of 'MANHE HOUSE'—SHOP or OFFICE and GODOWNS. HOUSE, No. 4, 'BRACONFIELD ARCADE' OFFICES in No. 33, POTTINGER STREET. BED ROOM and OFFICE in 'No. 18, 'BANK BUILDINGS.'

Apply to BELLIOS & Co.

Hongkong, November 25, 1885. 2045

### To Let.

#### TO LET.

No. 9, REMOND TERRACE, 6 ROOMS, BATH ROOMS, &c.—Rent moderate.

Apply to C. F. A. SANGSTER, Receiver.

A. A. DOS REZENDOS, Decord.

Hongkong, November 9, 1885. 1946

### THE PEAK.

TO LET, with immediate possession, A BUNGALOW (partly FURNISHED), situated on Mount Kellett. Rent moderate.

Apply to DENNIS & MOSSOP, 49, Queen's Road.

Hongkong, November 12, 1885. 1971

### TO LET.

'COLLEGE CHAMBERS' (late HOTEL DE TUNIS), Single Rooms or SUITES of APARTMENTS. No. 4, Old BAKER STREET. No. 8, SERRAVALLO TERRACE.

Apply to DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.

Hongkong, November 20, 1885. 2018

### THE PEAK.

TO LET BUNGALOW at Mount Kellett. 7 Rooms, Terrace, &c., &c. For 1885 or longer if desired.

Apply to JOHN D. HUTCHISON.

Hongkong, September 17, 1885. 1928

### TO LET.

No. 4, RICHMOND TERRACE. Comfortable DWELLING House, cool in Summer, pleasantly situated and commanding picturesque views. TENNIS COURT.

Apply to J. D. HUMPHREYS.

Hongkong, November 8, 1885. 1908

### TO LET.

OFFICES and CHAMBERS, No. 7, QUEEN'S ROAD, lately occupied by Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

Apply to BIRD & PALMER, Who will exhibit Plans and arrange Offices to suit applicants.

Hongkong, April 4, 1885. 607

## Shipping.

### Steamers.

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, BOMBAY, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, AND TRIESTE.

(Taking Cargo at through rates to CALCUTTA, PERSIAN GULF, BLACK SEA, LEVANT and AFRICAN PORTS.)

The Co.'s Steamship *Adriatic*, will be despatched as above on MONDAY, the 30th Instant, at Noon.

For further Particulars, regarding Freight and Passage, apply to the Agent of the Company, Praya Central.

O. BACHRACH, Agent.

Hongkong, November 16, 1885. 1988

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SYDNEY, MELBOURNE AND ADELAIDE, VIA SINGAPORE AND JAVA PORTS.

(Calling at PORT DARWIN & QUEENSLAND PORTS, and taking through Cargo to NEW ZEALAND, NEW CALEDONIA, TASMANIA and FIJI.)

The Steamship *Teakoe*, Capt. McARTHUR, will be despatched for the above Ports on WEDNESDAY, the 2nd December, at 4 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to RUSSELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, November 18, 1885. 2004

### Sailing Vessels.

FOR VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The 3/3 L.L.I. British Bark *Nanaimo*, Doon, Master, will lead here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to RUSSELL & Co.

Hongkong, November 2, 1885. 1906

FOR NEW YORK.

The Fast and Favorite American Clipper Ship *South American*, FRANK POWELL, Master, will lead here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

Rate of Freight, Shillings Fifteen per ton of 40 cubic feet.

For Freight, apply to RUSSELL & Co.

Hongkong, November 6, 1885. 1990

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.

The 3/3 L.L.I. American Ship *Minotaur*, Master, will lead here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to RUSSELL & Co.

Hongkong, October 26, 1885. 1986

### Notices to Consignees.

FROM HAMBURG, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE S.S. *Hesperia*, Captain MILAN, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Opium, are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Undersigned whence and/or from the Wharves or Boats delivery may be obtained. Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before 1 p.m. To-morrow, the 24th Instant. No Claims will be admitted after the 2nd December will be subject to rent. No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by SIEMSEN & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, November 25, 1885. 2041

FROM LONDON, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship *Glenos* having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Opium, are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Undersigned whence and/or from the Wharves or Boats delivery may be obtained. Optional Cargo including R (in square), 26 cases Guns, through Cargo ex S.S. *European* from New York, will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before 5 p.m. To-day, the 24th Instant. Cargo remaining undelivered after the 30th Instant will be subject to rent. No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, November 24, 1885. 2038

FROM GLASGOW, LONDON, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship *Glenyon* having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Opium, are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Undersigned whence and/or from the Wharves or Boats delivery may be obtained. Cargo remaining undelivered after the 30th Instant will be subject to rent. No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, November 24, 1885. 2038

FROM SWATOW, AMOY, TAMSUI AND TAIWANFOO.

The Co.'s Steamship *Hailong*, Captain WYLLIE, will be despatched for the above Ports on SUNDAY, the 29th Instant, at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LAIRDALE & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, November 25, 1885. 2043







Two new patent gas lights have recently been fitted up by the local Gas Company in the Hongkong Hotel, and it appears to be a moot question as to which of the two patent burners is the best. One of the new lights, the "Wenham," has been fitted over the desk of the Hotel Office, and the other, Lipsey's patent, above the reading desk at the back of the bar-room. Both burners give a bright, clear light, equal to more than four ordinary burners. It is claimed for the "Lipsey" that the light given is purer and whiter than that of the "Wenham." The flame of the latter is in the form of a disk, while the "Lipsey" light forms a half globe of flame. In both these lights the flame is directed from the burner in a downward direction instead of upwards as in the usual burners. Both patents claim considerable superiority over ordinary burners in economy of consumption, intensity, purity and steadiness of light, as complete combustion of the gas is obtained. A "Wenham" lamp of smaller size than that in the Hongkong Hotel has been fitted up in the Victoria Hotel, and another one in the German Club. Mr. Lane, Crawford & Co., are the local agents for the "Wenham" lamp and burner. An advertisement regarding it will be found on our fourth page.

We are led to believe that the farce of another Address—involved, of course, in other Reply—is to be again gone through in the Legislative Council. It might have been thought that, after the last experience in this department of ceremony, the unofficial members would have this time been constrained to say, "Hold, enough." There has, indeed, been much more than enough of this nonsense, especially when we consider the mode of framing these documents and the silly and contemptible stuff which they contain. We do not hesitate to say that such foolish innovations have materially lowered the dignity and respect which our local Parliament ought at all times to command. Were the Address and Reply hearty, sincere, or dignified in tone, there might be some excuse for their preparation and presentation; but when the only result is an ill-suppressed feeling of amusement over the burlesque performance, the continuance of the farce should be warmly and strongly opposed by the independent members. If the unofficial members do take any part in this foolish display, it is to be hoped that they will on this occasion see that their reply is not written (or re-written) by the venerable author of the Address itself. It would be wiser and more to their credit if the unofficial members decline to again join in any such proceeding like that of the last Reply.

We heard that two or three nights ago an armed attack was made by a band of pirates or salt smugglers upon a village in Chinese territory nearly opposite Stonecutter's Island. It appears that the villagers had received some information beforehand of the proposed attack and made their arrangements accordingly. At dusk all the women and children and other non-combatants amongst the population were sent to a place of security in the neighbourhood, whilst the able-bodied men of the community armed themselves as well as their limited resources would permit and then secreted themselves at the outskirts of the village. After waiting in concealment for a time the villagers saw the smugglers, to the number of a score or so, advance into the village and break into some of the houses. As soon as the piratical band had fairly started on their looting operations, the villagers closed in and attacked them. The pirates were taken by surprise and being separated to a considerable extent, in their attacks upon different houses, the villagers, though not well armed, had the advantage. Many shots were exchanged, and spears, swords, fighting axes, &c., were brought into requisition, the villagers eventually beating off the aggressors with considerable loss, several men having been killed in the fight and a number of others wounded and made prisoners.

Korea, says the *Shimpo*, has memorialized the Emperor of China, requesting an armistice to be sent to that country, to prevent it from an invasion by her powerful neighbour—*Mercury*.

The N. C. D. News suggests:—We should like to see the Telephone Company inaugurate a line to Wauwau. We are sure it would pay. Friends connected with shipping would find it a great boon, and would not doubt be willing to pay a monthly subscription towards its support. Private individuals could be charged so much per message.

We (N. C. D. News) are requested by Mr. Patrick J. Hughes most emphatically to republish, on his behalf, the stuff put into his mouth by the San Francisco reporter. It seems that so soon as Mr. Hughes entered the Palace Hotel, that he was possessed upon by two representatives of the press, who forthwith began to catch him about his views on Chinese matters. Their gross misstatement is repeating what he said, and we are asked to publish the following example. One of them said to Mr. Hughes that Mr. Russell Young, in passing through San Francisco, claimed that the transfer of the Chinese fleet of merchant steamers to the American flag indicated the progress of American commerce in China. Mr. Hughes' opinion was asked, and he replied that he could not confirm Mr. Young's view, seeing that three steamers are now again under the Chinese flag. And yet, in this interview, a newspaper he is made to say that the first sale was a good sign of the progress of American commerce in China. Such other remarks attributed to the Commissioner are even more absurd, but it is not necessary to draw attention to them.

His death is announced by telegram from H. E. Peng, Governor of Hunan, he died on the night of 18th instant—*Mercury*.

The *Mercury* of the 20th instant says:—A force is said to have occurred at Peking by which several foreigners of importance are said to have been injured by the soldiers. The details we heard as given in private letters are not correct, but there is nothing unusual in the behaviour reported of the soldiers there. They seem to be like the miners in the North in Europe, and in the quarter of a century ago. When a minor sitting on a style saw an M. B. clergyman approaching to offer a tract, he said, "Look here, Bill, ere's a stranger, leave 'art a brick at 'im."

The *Shanghai Courier* suggests that brokers in Shanghai ought to be taxed. It says:—Brokers are, we should think, quite as numerous as merchants in now more so, and the great majority of them do not pay one cent to the Municipal revenue. Few of those residing on the Bubbling Well Road have offices in the Southern and Central districts of the city, the courteous attention of the Municipal Tax collectors. It is difficult to say how numerous others are, but they exist and grow fast, and drive about the settlement with the palanquin of a native. They are present in the Chinese streets, and are more numerous than any other class, and in common fairness they should be called upon to contribute to the expense of repairing the same, and to pay the wages of the policemen who regulate the traffic, so largely composed of themselves. They would not be so much to tax each broker individually, but that for the Municipal Council to compel each broker to take out a license before he can pursue his avocation in the settlement; but what we do advocate is this; that no person should use our streets as much as the brokers do, unless they pay taxes, and we would suggest that each broker's carriage, or any other carriage regularly using the streets, should pay a tax of five dollars per month, unless the broker, or owner, could show that he paid the Municipal tax on an assessment of the Municipal Council. A tax of the kind, in the present impoverished state of the Municipal exchequer, would be well worth the trouble of collection; it would be a very fair and just tax to impose, and we think our suggestion is one well worthy the consideration of the Municipal Council.

The *Shanghai Mercury* of the 21st instant says:—The Portuguese community can now boast also of having a divorce case in the annals of its history in this settlement; one was heard the other day at the Portuguese Consulate; we have not been able to get full particulars; as proceedings of what nature against an adopted son of Lusitania were always withheld from the public. We consider that the Portuguese community, the bulk of whom follow mercantile pursuits. The commercial community of Shanghai, who employ and liberally pay Portuguese in various capacities, have a moral right to know something of the conduct of these men, and doing justice to the well-known portion of the Portuguese community, the bulk of whom follow mercantile pursuits. The commercial community of Shanghai, who employ and liberally pay Portuguese in various capacities, have a moral right to know something of the conduct of these men, and doing justice to the well-known portion of the Portuguese community, the bulk of whom follow mercantile pursuits.

We read that at a recent meeting of the Spanish Meteorological Society, Professor Ewing, Dundee, described the manner in which he proposes to conduct a series of earthquake observations on Ben Nevis. He was, he said, instigated to take up the work by three of the directors of the Society, and in acting himself to it, he has adopted a wider view of the sense of the word "earthquake" than was colloquially attached to it. He accepted the restricted meaning of the word, "where would he have observed," and he proposed to observe the movements of the earth in various parts of the world had shown that for the earth to be really at rest was an event of the most extreme rarity, if it ever occurred at all. In the event of an earthquake, they must understand at least three tolerably distinct classes of earth-movements. There were, first of all, earthquakes proper; and here he might say that he had secured a pretty good acquaintance in the observation of these movements. What was wanted in the observation of earthquakes, proper, and of earth-movements was an approach to neutral equilibrium; and this he had endeavoured to secure by an apparatus which was so adjusted as to combine a pendulum proper with what was in effect an inverted pendulum. This inverted pendulum being below the other, and the "bobs" of both being connected by what is virtually a ball-and-socket arrangement. In the case of the instrument intended to record the changes from the vertical, a mirror fixed in the rock is so placed in relation to a plane of reflection, that when there is any tilting of the images of both pendulums, and are taken in by a microscope placed in a certain position. When, however, there has been any tilting, the images diverge, and the microscope at once detects this divergence, as well as the extent of it.

The N. C. D. News learns by a private letter from Yokohama that Miss Melville, of the Melville Opera Company, was so ill just before the Yokohama performance, that she could not sing; and that the audience preferred to take the back seats of the theatre.

Once again we (the *Sydney Morning Mail*) are reminded by the publication of an official report that the aboriginals of the colony are rapidly passing away. The report of the Board entrusted by Parliament with the duty of protecting them has just been printed, and according to this document their number was fewer by about 450 last year than it was in 1883. The statistics are collected by the police, acting under special instructions from the Inspector-General, who is now the chairman of the board, and they may therefore be regarded as approximately correct. The whole number of aboriginals in the colony being now about 5700, it follows that, if they continue to decrease in the proportion in which they have been decreasing during the last few years, there will be none left at the close of the present century. Nowhere can the Malayo-Polynesian tribes hold their own when they come into contact with European civilisation. The Maori are the most advanced of the family, but are disappearing almost as rapidly as the Australian blacks; and the population of Fiji has been reduced fully a third since the annexation of the country by Great Britain. The natives imitate the vices and are attacked by the diseases of the superior race, and these sweep them away as chaff swept away by the wind. In the case of the Australian aboriginals, their swift march to the grave is, in one sense, not a circumstance to be deplored. In all the ages that they occupied the country before the advent of the white man they did nothing to improve it, nor have they been different in this respect in the century that has elapsed since its occupancy by Great Britain. We have tried to create in the aboriginal a true conception of human responsibility, and to encourage him to act accordingly; but we have not succeeded. Neither statesmen nor philanthropists have been able to raise the condition of the blacks generally, and in the presence of civilisation they are fast passing out of the world. An inexorable law of progress seems to demand the transit of the black from a life of savagery to a life of slavery, or to a life of only an animal, and not a human being. Our duty—the duty imposed upon us by the philanthropic sentiment—is to make his last days as comfortable as we can. But it is pleasing to know, the Government is trying to perform.

#### DEATH OF THE KING OF SPAIN.

The death of the King of Spain though not altogether unexpected, has caused some surprise. He was never very robust, and for some time past he had been very weak from the disease to which he has ultimately succumbed. King Alfonso was the youngest monarch of his time, being only 28 years of age. The following is taken from the *Men of the Time*:—  
Alfonso XXI. (Alfonso Francisco de Asis Fernando Philip Juan Maria de la Concepcion Gregorio, &c.) King of Spain, eldest son of the ex-Queen Isabella II., was born Nov. 28, 1857. When his mother was dying, he was threatened by the revolution of 1868; he accompanied her to Paris, where he resided with her for some time, but subsequently he went to Austria, in order to prosecute his studies in the Theresianum, or nobleman's academy, at Vienna, in which he was admitted in 1874. On June 26, 1870, Queen Isabella formally abdicated her right to the throne of Spain in favour of her son, but no open steps were taken at this time to secure for him the position which this abdication left open to him. This pretence, however, was not maintained, the eldest son of the Duke of Montpensier, and his wife, the Infanta Luisa, but as so many pretenders were calculated to complicate matters, the claim of Louis Philippe's grandson was ultimately waived in favour of the heir of Isabella. Early in 1875, he returned to Spain, and on the 17th of June he was crowned at Madrid. He was most enthusiastically received. On Feb. 16, 1876, he departed from Madrid to take the command of the troops operating against the Carlists, and he returned in triumph to the capital at the head of 25,000 men, having subdued the Carlist insurrection. In the same year the ex-Queen Isabella returned to Spain, and was received by her son at Santander (July 1876). He married, in 1876, Maria-de-las-Mercedes, born September 11, 1850; s. Maria Teresa, born November 12, 1882.

On Nov. 28, 1879, he married a second time, his bride being the Archduchess Maria Christina of Austria, born in 1858. By this union he has had two daughters, Maria-de-las-Mercedes, born September 11, 1880; s. Maria Teresa, born November 12, 1882.

#### THE SUGAR INDUSTRY IN HONGKONG.

A Coast correspondent favours us with the following extract from an interesting private letter on Hongkong sugar matters from one of the Australian Colonies. Its value, it may be noted, is somewhat lessened by its too evident bias, notwithstanding its disclaimer; but it contains some plain-spoken truths that may prove interesting to many.

What are the good people of Hongkong up to? Have they our or their own view in view? Or would they suppose the former, under the denomination of "compensation," but they should take care that it does not react on themselves. When I passed through Hongkong some few years ago, I found one and all with whom I came in contact entertained kindly feelings towards our Australian Colonies, and a general desire to see that healthy trade between us and China might be increased. Trade did increase, and began to include moderate shipments of refined sugars from Hongkong, the import of which was taken by small vessels of the Hongkong and Shanghai Steam Navigation Company, and it was probably the only thing that did not harm to us and probably

leaving fair results to the shippers. In this way we got to know the first quality of the "China Sugar Refinery," and actually, about 1880, we got to know that of a company with a Chinese name, that of the production of a third Hongkong Refinery made their appearance, and in such quantities, combined with those from the other two, as to open our eyes to the fact that within a month's end of us by the Torres Straits route. On came the shipments by every steam chance; and the result to the stocks aggregated in the Colonies by December, when our prices gave way 25 to 28 per ton, was only too plainly set forth in the Hongkong newspapers. If results to that Company were so bad, what must have been the results to the Hongkong and Shanghai Sugar Refinery at their last annual meeting, copies of which found their way down here in the Hongkong newspapers. If results to that Company were so bad, what must have been the results to the Hongkong and Shanghai Sugar Refinery at their last annual meeting, copies of which found their way down here in the Hongkong newspapers. If results to that Company were so bad, what must have been the results to the Hongkong and Shanghai Sugar Refinery at their last annual meeting, copies of which found their way down here in the Hongkong newspapers.

So much we learnt, combined with later hints from a Hongkong gentleman, that the Hongkong and Shanghai Sugar Refinery, with good reason, were wondering where the markets were to be found for the enormous superfluous production of the new concern, except at ruinous loss to all three refineries, until the sacrifice had been made, and the Hongkong and Shanghai Sugar Refinery, with good reason, were wondering where the markets were to be found for the enormous superfluous production of the new concern, except at ruinous loss to all three refineries, until the sacrifice had been made, and the Hongkong and Shanghai Sugar Refinery, with good reason, were wondering where the markets were to be found for the enormous superfluous production of the new concern, except at ruinous loss to all three refineries, until the sacrifice had been made, and the Hongkong and Shanghai Sugar Refinery, with good reason, were wondering where the markets were to be found for the enormous superfluous production of 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